Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

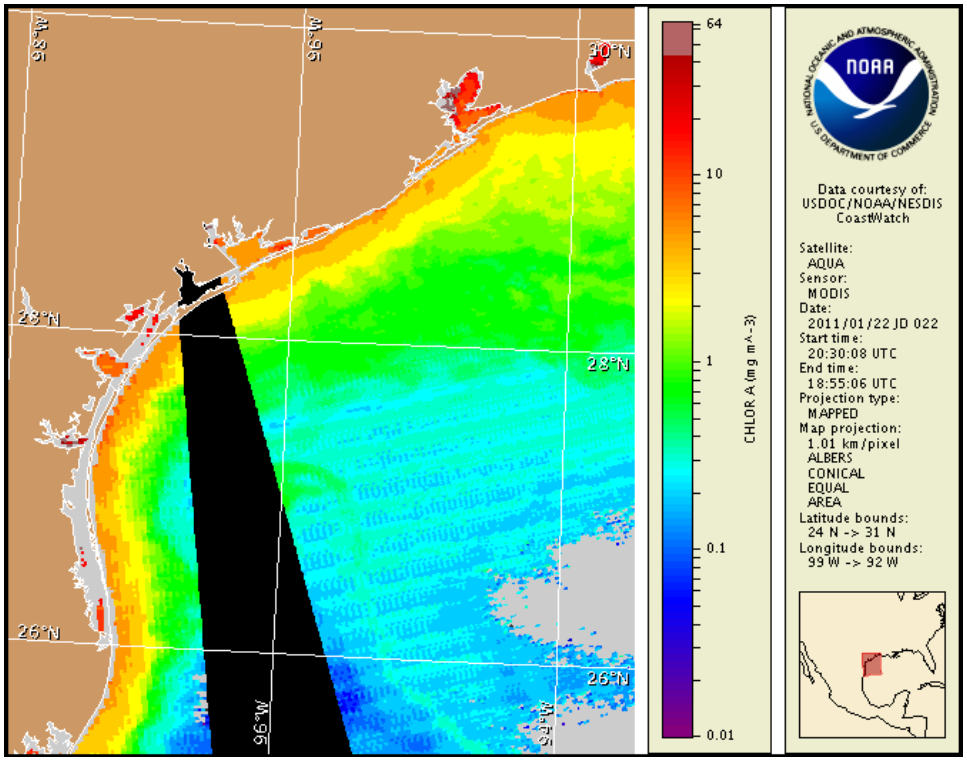
24 January 2011

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: January 18, 2011



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from January 14 to 19 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Conditions Report

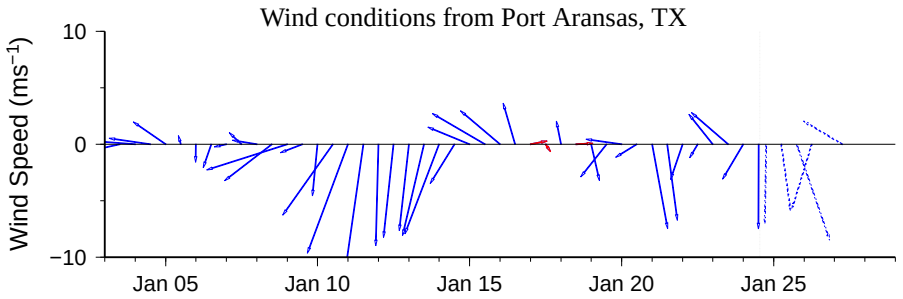
There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in Texas. No impacts are expected alongshore Texas today through Sunday, January 30.

Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom along the coast of Texas. Recent imagery has been partially obscured by clouds. Elevated chlorophyll is visible in MODIS imagery along much of the Texas coastline, including along- and offshore from Sabine Pass to South Padre Island (2 to 10 μg/L). A patch of elevated to high chlorophyll (8 to >10 μg/L) is also visible near the southern end of South Padre Island. Elevated chlorophyll seems to be due to the resuspension of benthic chlorophyll and sediments as a result of strong winds over the past several days and is most likely not related to a harmful algal bloom. Forecast models indicate a potential maximum transport of 210 km south along the coast from Port Aransas from January 22 to 27.

Note: SeaWiFS imagery is presently unavailable for analysis, MODIS imagery is shown at left and on page 2.

Kavanaugh, Derner

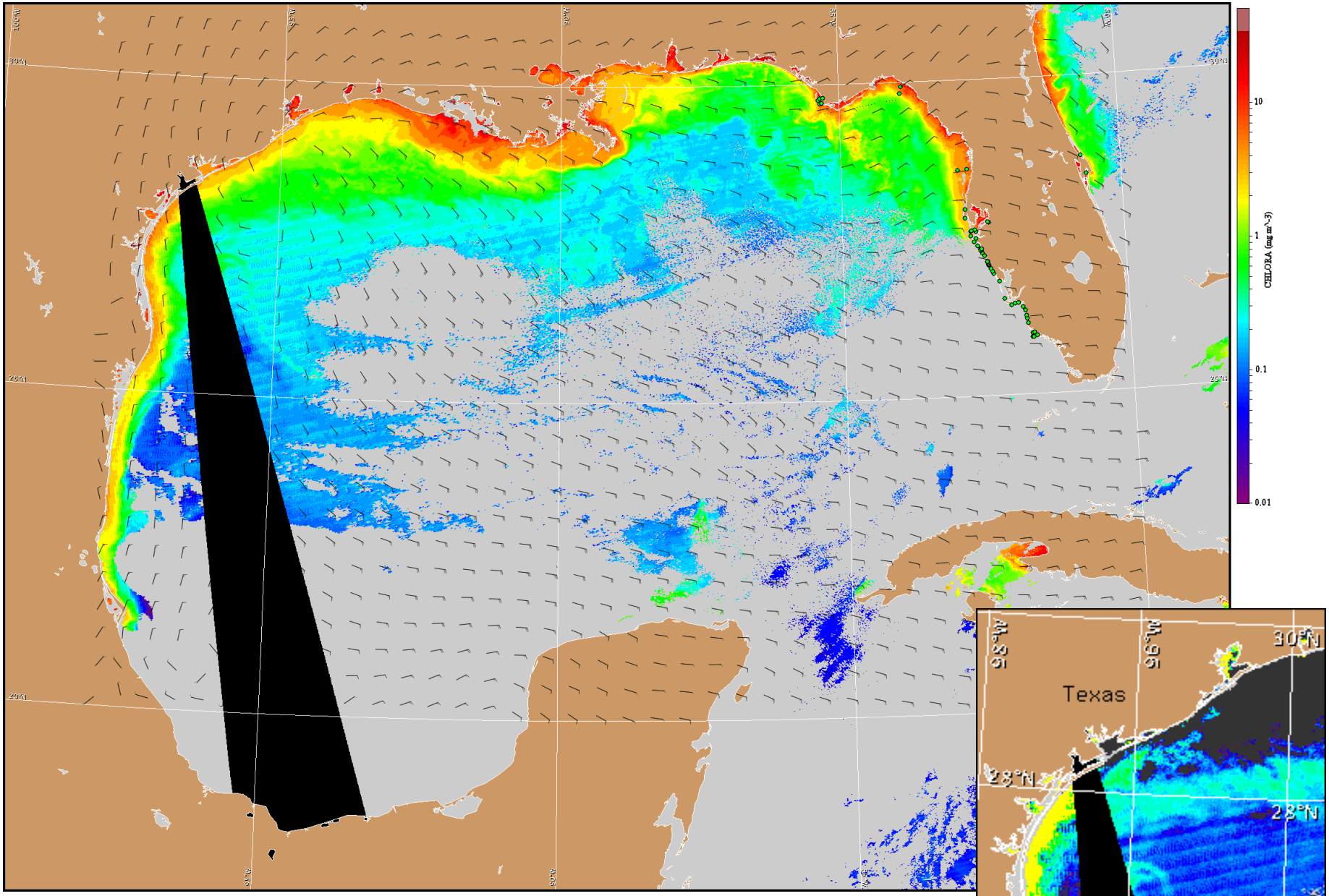


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

Wind Analysis

North winds (10-25 kn, 5-13 m/s) today through Tuesday evening. Northeast winds (10 kn, 5 m/s) Wednesday. North winds (10 kn) Thursday shifting east (5-10 kn, 3-5 m/s) through Friday, then becoming southeast winds (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s).

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive: http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for January 25, 2011 06Z with Cell concentration sampling data from January 14 to 19 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:

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Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).